Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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UNCLAS SEOUL 6354

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, KS, ID

SUBJECT: ROK, INDONESIA ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

1. ROKG AND GOI ISSUED FOLLOWING JOINT COMMUNIQUE
SEPTEMBER 18 ANNOUNCING ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS: QUOTE THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
AND THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA HAVE AGREED TO ESTABLISH
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTIRES WITH A VIEW TO
STRENGTHENING AND DEVELOPING FURTHER THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS
EXISTING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTIRES. ACCORDINGLY, THEY
HAVE DECIDED TO RAISE THE PRESENT CONSULATE GENERAL REPRESENTATION
TO AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL. END QUOTE.

2. ROK PRESS HAS GIVEN MAJOR COVERAGE TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT, NOTING THAT INDONESIA ALREADY HAS AMBASSADORIAL RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA AND WILL NOW BECOME THE FIRST NONALIGNED COUNTRY IN ASIA TO HAVE RESIDENT EMBASSIES OF BOTH KOREAS. PRESS EMPHASIZES THAT RAISING OF RELATIONS IS A TURNING POINT IN ROK DIPLOMACY TOWARE NEUTRAL NATIONS, IN LINE WITH PRESIDENT PARK'S JUNE 23 INITIATIVE, AND SEES THE MOVE AS STRENGTHENING THE ROK'S POSITION AT THE UNGA. HABIB

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